



## **Options for Individuals with Health Plan Cancellations**

Some consumers have experienced health insurance issuers cancelling their policies for coverage in 2014 because it is not compliant with the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Michigan has adopted transitional guidance that allows health insurance carriers to renew their existing plans and policies. However, some health insurance issuers have opted not to continue cancelled plans.

If your individual market health insurance policy has been cancelled, a number of options are available:

### **Check your Medicaid eligibility**

- Apply to see if you are currently eligible for [Medicaid](#) or be aware that an [expansion of Michigan's Medicaid program](#) is likely to occur on April 1, 2014.

### **Obtain a new plan effective in 2014**

- Shop for a 2014 plan with your current health insurance carrier.
- Shop for coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace ([www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)). Depending on your income and other factors, you may be eligible to receive a [premium tax credit](#) that will help with the cost coverage through the Marketplace.
- Shop for a policy outside the Marketplace by purchasing directly from insurer or through a licensed insurance agent. This may be a good option if you do not qualify for premium tax credits based on your income. Premium tax credits are only available if you shop on the Marketplace.

### **Obtain a new plan effective in 2013**

- Shop for an alternative plan from your current carrier. Carriers who cancel certain products must make all other products available to you without restrictions. You should have received a letter from your carrier outlining your options. If you did not receive a letter or are unsure of your options, contact your carrier.
- Shop for an individual plan with another health carrier that is offering coverage to new enrollees prior to December 31, 2013. Note you may be subject to underwriting and pricing adjustments due to your health status, as allowed by law for plans offered prior to January 1, 2014.

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### **Other options**

- Apply to the Marketplace for a “[hardship exemption](#)” which would qualify you to purchase a [catastrophic plan](#) in the Marketplace. Note you are not eligible for a hardship exemption if your carrier offered to reinstate your policy under the transitional guidance.
- Opt to not purchase a new plan, apply for a “[hardship exemption](#)” in the Marketplace and not pay a federal tax penalty. Note you are not eligible for a hardship exemption if your carrier offered to reinstate your policy under the transitional guidance.
- Opt to not purchase a new plan and pay a [federal tax penalty](#) for not having insurance in 2014.

An insurance agent or assister can provide assistance in determining eligibility and shopping for coverage both on and off the marketplace. More information about agents and assisters can be found on our website at: [http://www.michigan.gov/difs/0,5269,7-303-12902\\_35510\\_59739-313357--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/difs/0,5269,7-303-12902_35510_59739-313357--,00.html). Additionally, the Marketplace has a dedicated toll-free hotline available for those whose plans have been cancelled: (866) 837-0677.

Remember that in order for your coverage to be effective you must make your first months payment by the due date provided by your insurance carrier.

More information on health insurance can be found at: [www.michigan.gov/hicap](http://www.michigan.gov/hicap).